

Winter Sisters by Robin Oliveira Historical Fiction 372 pages

New York, 1879: After an epic snow storm ravages the city of Albany, Dr. Mary Sutter, a former Civil War surgeon, begins a search for two little girls, the daughters of close friends killed by the storm who have vanished without a trace.

Mary's mother and niece Elizabeth, who has been studying violin in Paris, return to Albany upon learning of the girls' disappearance—but Elizabeth has another reason for wanting to come home, one she is not willing to reveal. Despite resistance from the community, who believe the girls to be dead, the family persists in their efforts to find the two sisters. When what happened to them is revealed, the uproar that ensues tears apart families, reputations, and even the social fabric of the city, exposing dark secrets about some of the most powerful of its citizens, and putting fragile loves and lives at great risk.

Ask Me No Questions by Shelley Noble 339 pages

Lady Dunbridge is a clever widow turned sleuth. She leaves English society, ventures to New York City and becomes involved in the Gilded Age of Manhattan. She discovers a dark side within this circle and is determined to reveal the truth.

The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck 356 pages

This is the poignant tale of a Chinese farmer and his family in old agrarian China. The humble Wang Lung glories in the soil he works, nurturing the land as it nurtures him and his family. Nearby, the nobles of the House of Hwang consider themselves above the land and its workers; but they will soon meet their own downfall. Hard times come upon Wang Lung and his family when flood and drought force them to seek work in the city. The working people riot, breaking into the homes of the rich and forcing them to flee. When Wang Lung shows mercy to one noble and is rewarded, he begins to rise in the world, even as the House of Hwang falls.

Clock Dance: A novel by Anne Tyler 304 pages

Willa Drake can count on one hand the defining moments of her life. In 1967, she is a schoolgirl coping with her mother's sudden disappearance. In 1977, she is a college coed considering a marriage proposal. In 1997, she is a young widow trying to piece her life back together. And in 2017, she yearns to be a grandmother but isn't sure she ever will be. Then, one day, Willa receives a startling phone call from a stranger. Without fully understanding why, she flies across the country to Baltimore to look after a young woman she's never met, her nine-year-old daughter, and their dog, Airplane. This impulsive decision will lead Willa into uncharted territory--surrounded by eccentric neighbors who treat each other like family, she finds solace and fulfillment in unexpected places. A bewitching novel of hope and transformation,

The Miracle at Dunkirk: the True Story of Operation Dynamo by Walter Lord 232 pages

The true story of the WWII evacuation when Britain did not let its soldiers down. Based on interviews with hundreds of survivors, the *Miracle at Dunkirk* is a striking history of a week when the outcome of WWII hung in the balance.

Beneath a Scarlet Sky: A Novel by Mark Sullivan 526 pages

(on Amazon, it's noted that it's being made into a movie)

Pino Lella wants nothing to do with the war or the Nazis. He's a normal Italian teenager—obsessed with music, food, and girls—but his days of innocence are numbered. When his family home in Milan is destroyed by Allied bombs, Pino joins an underground railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps, and falls for Anna, a beautiful widow six years his senior. In an attempt to protect him, Pino's parents force him to enlist as a German soldier—a move they think will keep him out of combat. But after Pino is injured, he is recruited at the tender age of eighteen to become the personal driver for Adolf Hitler's left hand in Italy, General Hans Leyers, one of the Third Reich's most mysterious and powerful commanders. Now, with the opportunity to spy for the Allies inside the German High Command, Pino endures the horrors of the war and the Nazi occupation by fighting in secret, his courage bolstered by his love for Anna and for the life he dreams they will one day share.

Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover 334 pages

An unforgettable memoir in the tradition of *The Glass Castle* about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University.

Educated is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty and of the grief that comes with severing the closest of ties. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes and the will to change it.

Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger 307 pages

New Bremen, Minnesota, 1961. It was a time of innocence and hope for a country with a new, young president. But for thirteen-year-old Frank Drum it was a summer in which death assumed many forms. When tragedy unexpectedly comes to call on his family, Frank finds himself thrust into an adult world full of secrets, lies, adultery, and betrayal. On the surface, *Ordinary Grace* is the story of the murder of a beautiful young woman, a beloved daughter and sister. At heart, it's the story of what that tragedy does to a boy, his family, and ultimately the fabric of the small town in which he lives. Told from Frank's perspective forty years after that fateful summer, it is a moving account of a boy standing at the door of his young manhood, trying to understand a world that seems to be falling apart around him.

Secrets, Lies and Apple Pies by Audry Fryer

279 pages

When a random text message appears on her husband's phone from Josephine, a friend as close as family, Braeburn thinks little of invading Reed's privacy ...until she reads it, "Whatever you do, don't tell Braeburn." This trust threatening message combined with an unseasonably early snowfall dangerously coating the country roads near her small Pennsylvania town of Scarlet's Mill, sends Braeburn careening out of control in more heart pounding ways than one. Now, baking apple pies for her sister's business – despite being horrible at preparing a homemade pie crust – may be Braeburn's only hope for recovery. Since moving into the farmhouse with her mother at the Scarlet family's orchard, Braeburn has been tormented by questions surrounding the events on the day of her accident. What was Josephine hiding? And, was her entire marriage based on one big lie?

Big Little Lies by Liane Moriarty

460 pages

Madeline is a force to be reckoned with. She's funny and biting, passionate, she remembers everything and forgives no one. Celeste is the kind of beautiful woman who makes the world stop and stare. While she may seem a bit flustered at times, who wouldn't be, with those rambunctious twin boys? New to town, single mom Jane is so young that another mother mistakes her for the nanny. Jane is sad beyond her years and harbors secret doubts about her son. But why? While Madeline and Celeste soon take Jane under their wing, none of them realizes how the arrival of Jane and her inscrutable little boy will affect them all. *Big Little Lies* is a brilliant take on ex-husbands and second wives, mothers and daughters, schoolyard scandal, and the dangerous little lies we tell ourselves just to survive.